

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2437

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Perez

February 19, 2010

An act to add Section 71098 to the Education Code, relating to community colleges, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2437, as introduced, V. Manuel Perez. Community colleges: green technology training: workforce development strategy.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. Existing law requires the board of governors to appoint a chief executive officer, known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law establishes, until January 1, 2013, the California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program. Existing law requires the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as part of the program, to assist economic and workforce regional development centers and consortia, including middle and junior high schools or high schools and regional occupational centers and programs, to improve linkages and career-technical education pathways between high schools and community colleges for the benefit of pupils and students in both education systems and requires this assistance to include, among other things, expansion of certificate programs in identified economic development program strategic priority areas.

This bill would require the Economic Development and Workforce Preparation Division of the office of the chancellor, in cooperation with

the Workforce Investment Board, the California Employment Training Panel, the California Economic Strategy Panel, and other organizations, to prepare a strategy for the purpose of determining how to expend federal economic stimulus moneys targeted for workforce development. The bill would require the strategy to include an assessment of workforce training needs and would require the strategy to identify workforce development partners and resources. The bill would require the chancellor to submit that strategy to the Legislature.

(2) Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to develop, implement, and administer a program, titled the Public Interest Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration Program, to include a full range of research, development, and demonstration activities that are not adequately provided for by competitive and regulated energy markets. Existing law establishes the Public Interest Research, Development, and Demonstration Fund in the State Treasury, and provides that the money collected from electrical corporations to support cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation activities, and public interest research and development not adequately provided by competitive and regulated markets, be deposited in the fund for use by the Energy Commission for implementation and administration of the program.

This bill would appropriate \$15,000,000 from the fund to the California Community Colleges for the purpose of providing green technology training through career technical and vocational programs. The bill would authorize the Energy Commission to allocate to the California Community Colleges up to \$15,000,000 from specified economic recovery funds received from the federal government in lieu of the appropriation from the fund. The bill would require that an amount equal to that allocation revert back to the fund if the Energy Commission makes that allocation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 71098 is added to the Education Code,
- 2 to read:
- 3 71098. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 4 following:

1 (1) The purpose of the California Community Colleges
2 Economic and Workforce Development Program is to advance the
3 state's economic growth and global competitiveness through
4 education, training, and services that contribute to workforce
5 improvement, technology deployment, and business development,
6 consistent with the state's regional economies. Under this program,
7 the California Community Colleges work with employers, advisory
8 committees, and agency partners to identify, on a region-by-region
9 basis, workforce education and training needs, including the needs
10 of small businesses.

11 (2) The Career Technical Education Unit of the Economic
12 Development and Workforce Preparation Division of the Office
13 of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges focuses
14 on program coordination and advocacy, policy development, and
15 coordination with K-14 workforce preparation and career and
16 technical education systems. That unit is responsible for
17 implementation of the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
18 Education Act of 2006 and the Governor's Career Pathways
19 Initiative, and for the development, dissemination, and
20 implementation of the California State Plan for Vocational and
21 Technical Education and the annual performance reports.

22 (3) The Economic Development and Workforce Preparation
23 Division of the Office of the Chancellor of the California
24 Community Colleges has a variety of responsibilities related to
25 workforce and economic development, including the
26 implementation of a comprehensive plan for vocational and
27 technical education and the delivery of industry-focused technical
28 assistance activities pursuant to the California Community Colleges
29 Economic and Workforce Development Program.

30 (4) In 1996, economic development became a primary mission
31 of the California Community Colleges.

32 (b) The Economic Development and Workforce Preparation
33 Division of the Office of the Chancellor of the California
34 Community Colleges shall prepare a strategy for the purpose of
35 determining how to expend federal economic stimulus funds
36 targeted for workforce development. The strategy shall include all
37 of the following information:

38 (1) An assessment of workforce training needs based on existing
39 job opportunities, the status of workforce skills in each of the
40 economic regions of the state, and regionally significant and

1 emerging industries, and shall include particular attention to jobs
2 in clean technology industries.

3 (2) An identification of key public and private community,
4 economic, and workforce development partners.

5 (3) An identification of existing state, regional, and local public
6 and private workforce development resources.

7 (4) An identification of statutory and regulatory changes that
8 should be made in order to best utilize federal economic stimulus
9 funds targeted for workforce development.

10 (5) An identification of new resources that should be made
11 available to accomplish the objectives of the workforce
12 development strategy.

13 (6) A description of key tasks, timelines, outcomes, and
14 monitoring processes for purposes of developing the workforce
15 development strategy.

16 (c) The strategy described in subdivision (b) shall build upon
17 the California State Plan for Vocational and Technical Education
18 and shall include priorities determined by the Workforce
19 Investment Board, the California Employment Training Panel, and
20 the California Economic Strategy Panel.

21 (d) The strategy described in subdivision (b) shall be developed
22 in cooperation with the Workforce Investment Board, the California
23 Employment Training Panel, the California Economic Strategy
24 Panel, and appropriate business and labor organizations.

25 (e) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall
26 submit the strategy prepared pursuant to this section to the
27 appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature within
28 120 days of holding the first meeting to prepare the strategy.

29 SEC. 2. (a) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000)
30 is hereby appropriated from the Public Interest Research,
31 Development, and Demonstration Fund to the California
32 Community Colleges to be used for the purpose of providing green
33 technology training programs funded through the Economic
34 Development and Workforce Preparation Division and the Career
35 Technical Division of the Office of the Chancellor of the California
36 Community Colleges.

37 (b) The Energy Commission may allocate to the California
38 Community Colleges, from the moneys received for energy-related
39 projects and training pursuant to the federal American Recovery
40 and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) or related

1 federal acts, consistent with applicable federal law, and in lieu of
2 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subdivision (a), an amount
3 not exceeding fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for the purposes
4 of subdivision (a). If the Energy Commission allocates money in
5 lieu of the appropriation by subdivision (a), the total amount of
6 the moneys appropriated by subdivision (a) shall be reduced by
7 the amount so allocated and that amount shall revert to the Public
8 Interest Research, Development, and Demonstration Fund.

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